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Morgenthau and Kipling The Epic of Guynemer

By Willis Fletcher Johnson

Turk and Hun

Their Deviltries Portrayed by the American Ambassador

AMBASSADOR MORGENTHAU'S STORY. By Willis Fletcher Johnson. Doubleday, Page & Co. Most of what Mr. Morgenthau here says, and with admirable directness and explicitness, has already been made known to the public through the newspaper press; which, of course, is the slightest reason why there should not be the widest possible demand for it in this convenient and permanent form. Indeed, we imagine that all thoughtful persons who have read excerpts from this extraordinary revelation will be the more eager to get the complete story. Certainly it is a most timely publication. For, while it is related to matters of the past, it is a reminder of the character and disposition and deeds of the power with which we, indeed, have remained intimately at peace, but which our allies now have to deal with as a conquered foe, and, still more, of the responsibility for those deeds which is inevitably borne by the monstrous power with which we are at war and with which we are yet to have a final reckoning.

For that is the supreme salient of Mr. Morgenthau's story, the responsibility

of the Hun for the deviltries of the Turk and the Kurd. He gives singularly vivid and luminous pictures of diplomatic life at Constantinople, and of all the devious course of Young Turks, Old Turks and who not else since the beginning of the war. But the one fact which pervades the whole is that Germany—in the last analysis, the German Kaiser—was directly responsible for Turkey's entrance into the war and for the indescribable deviltry to death of a million Armenian men, women and children. It was the deliberate purpose of the Young Turks to fulfill the design which Abdul Hamid had cherished of exterminating the Armenian nation. The young and healthy women were to be taken forcibly as the child-bearing concubines of the Turk, and the very young boys were to be brought up as Mahometans; and all the rest were to be butchered, as cruelly as possible. Such was actually the fate of at least 600,000, and probably 1,000,000, of them. Mr. Morgenthau tells of the manner of their destruction in pages which nauseate the stomach and make the blood run cold to read, and then adds:

I have by no means told the most terrible details, for a complete narration of the sordid orgies of which these Armenian men and women were the victims can never be printed in an American publication. Whatever crimes the most perverted instincts of the human mind can devise, and whatever refinements of persecution

and injustice the most debased imagination can conceive, became the daily misfortunes of this devoted people. Write it in characters of blood and fire that for all these things William of Hohenzollern, the Kaiser of the Huns, was directly responsible; and then consider how he shall be rewarded.

A Knight of the Air The Romance of the "Roland of Our Epoch"

GUYNEMER. By Henry Bordeaux. (Authorized translation by Louis Morgan Hill. Introduction by Theodore Roosevelt. Large 12mo. Pp. 225. Yale University Press.

"Guynemer is the Roland of our epoch—like Roland he was very brave and like Roland he died for France. So wrote a French schoolboy not yet arrived in his teens. It is the most fitting of all tributes ever paid or to be paid to the matchless knight of the air in its classic simplicity even the eloquent narrative of Mr. Bordeaux and the earnest appreciation of Colonel Roosevelt must yield precedence. In a score of words it expresses the true estimation of France for her aerial champion.

It is of interest to recall that a former Guynemer, possibly an ancestor of him whom we have known, was a companion of the immortal "Chanson" poet worthy of such theme may trace the far transmission of the selfsame spirit from the one to the other. Today we must be content with the suggestion and with the imagination, still more with the simple facts of this later Guynemer's career. It was a career so daring, so devoted, so inspiring, so triumphant, as to challenge the most glowing fancies of the half-mythic past. Mr. Bordeaux has done well to divide his narrative not into chapters but into facts. The sheer virtue of the simple facts which he has to tell his story is made lyric, dramatic, epic—another "Chanson." Chanson de Guynemer! A touch of the same inspiration, too, came to the artists, one of whom has given us a portrait which compels the beholder to say that that is just how Guynemer must have looked, being what he was, while the other has drawn a series of views of the aeroplane in flight which convey an unsurpassed impression of height, of speed and of the immeasurable solitudes of the spaces through which this winged knight glided in his high enterprise and through which at the last he "went West."

We shall have many more tributes to Guynemer. We may have none more true and touching than this, nor more worthy of one whom a comrade declared to have been "the most sublime military figure I have ever been permitted to behold, one of the finest and most generous souls I have ever known."

Government Hand Books

EVOLUTION OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA. By Edward Percit. With maps. 16mo. Pp. 212. \$40. The World Book Company.

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF SWITZERLAND. By Robert C. Hooley. Illustrated. 16mo. Pp. 47. 40c. The World Book Company.

These two attractive volumes are the first of a series which has been undertaken under the editorship of Professors D. P. Barrows and T. H. Reed, of the University of California, intended to cover the governments of all important countries historically, politically and statistically, with ample bibliographies and references. The scheme is singularly inviting and timely, and gives promise of immense utility. The volumes before us are admirably conceived and written, and are calculated to be of equal service for consecutive reading, for study, and for reference. The print, paper and binding are exquisite, and the ample volume is of encyclopedic scope, it is so small and light as readily to be held in the hand or carried in the pocket. If the whole series is kept at this standard, as we may confidently expect, it will be highly creditable to American scholarship and to the publishing trade.

Nations in Peace and War Book News and Miscellany

"United Nations" An Attempted Analogy With the United States

A REPUBLIC OF NATIONS. By Ralph C. Minor. 8vo. Pp. 222. Yale University Press.

This is a serious and thoughtful book by a high authority (professor of constitutional and international law in the University of Virginia), on a topic of most timely and commanding interest. The question of a league of nations is very much to the fore, and will be until the issues of the war are settled, and both commands the support and provokes the opposition of some of the foremost statesmen and publicists. All intelligent and earnest consideration of it is therefore to be welcomed—such as that in the volume before us.

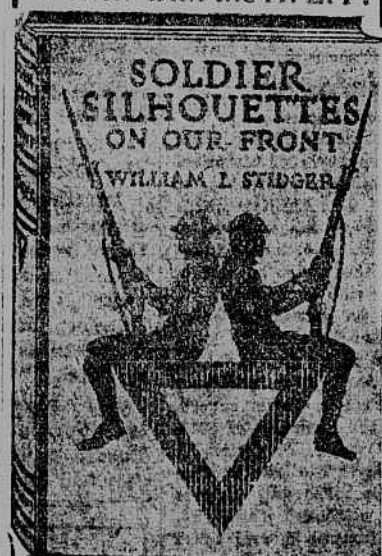
Professor Minor draws by far the most detailed analogy that we have seen between such a league of nations and the United States of America; even to the extent of printing the parallel columns the Constitution of the United



Henry Morgenthau
("Ambassador Morgenthau's Story"; Doubleday, Page & Co.)

States and the proposed constitution of the United Nations. In this way he effectively suggests the partial practicability of the scheme, but also, it must be confessed, reveals what seems to us a formidable if not an insuperable obstacle. The states of this Union, he points out, live together in peace because they have surrendered those powers which might make for war. If the nations of the world should do the same, they also would live together in peace. That is logical, so far as it goes, but it does not go to the root of the matter. "Surrender" in that case is a verb with a double object. The states do not surrender their warlike powers in the sense of abandoning them, but in the sense of turning them over to some one else, to wit, the national government, which is able to exercise them in superiority to the states. But to what power are the nations thus to surrender their potent warlike functions? Are they prepared to create a new government, superior to themselves, and subject themselves to it to any such degree as our states are subjected to the national government? That is the question first to be answered, in seriously considering such a scheme as that propounded by the scholarly author of this highly informing and thought-stimulating book.

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THE EYES OF ASIA. By Rudyard Kipling. 12mo. Pp. 187. Doubleday, Page & Co.

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Even the girls of eight years can cast accounts, and those that are marriageable have complete knowledge of cookery, accounts and government, and washing of clothes, agriculture and the manufacture of garments and all other offices, otherwise they are reckoned inferior-minded.

The shrewdness of observation, the pertinence of comment, the justice of criticism and the subtlety of humor which mark the four letters which compose this little volume, are inimitable. They are a welcome renaissance of the Kipling of the old-time Indian tales, at his best.

French Views of America

THE PEOPLE IN ACTION. By Gustave Rodin. Translated by Louis Serrano. Doubleday, Page & Co. With an introduction by J. Mack Baldwin. 12mo. Pp. 21. 25c. Charles Scribner's Sons.

It would be a grateful task to welcome and to praise this volume, so admirable are its general tone and its obvious purpose. We should, indeed, always welcome every effort to increase mutual understanding between the French and American nations. But such understanding, to be of value, must be accurate, and we are, therefore, required to correct even the best-intentioned and most unwitting errors. With all its fine qualities and lofty purpose, this book is marred by numerous misapprehensions and misrepresentations, not one of which is presumably intentional, but many of which might actually be mischievous if unchallenged.

Thus the author says of negroes that while in theory they enjoy the same social and political rights as the whites, "in all places—at the theatre, on the railroad and the tramway—they are segregated from the rest of the American people by a watertight compartment." It should have been made clearer that such is the case only in certain parts of the country. Again, it is said of an average American citizen that, whatever sect he belongs to, "his faith penetrates and forms his tastes, his habits, his conduct, his very ordering of his meals," which certainly is an exaggeration.

There are more serious errors. The author says of the President: "He alone is responsible to Congress, which during his entire term of office, has no other weapon against him than the procedure of impeachment. He is armed with the veto, which he seldom uses to override his veto is not mentioned. The quotation from Washington in praise of the militia, standing alone as it does, gives an entirely incorrect impression of his views. As for the statement that the Constitution can be modified 'in a given state only on exceptional occasions, and in the most still more seldom,' it would be difficult to imagine anything more blindly misleading.

The author appears, from the frequent quotations, to have drawn too much upon two authorities: De Tocqueville's "Democracy in America," a great work, but quite out of date, and Woodrow Wilson's "The New Freedom," an interesting but superficial and ill-proportioned composition.

The Drama of Russia

THE RED HEART OF RUSSIA. By Beatrice Harraden. 12mo. Pp. 450. The Century Company.

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